

N3DV
Richard M. Montgomery, Ph D, FAIC
17 Old Dutch Place
Bedminster, NJ 07921

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Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, DC 20554

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Re: RM-8626
Petition for Rulemaking by FO Maia,
W5YI; ...to Eliminate Certain one-
way Communications in the ARS
Medium and HF Bands.

Dear Sir/Madam:

I respectfully submit the following comments in opposition to the referenced petition.

The Obiector:

I hold an Amateur Extra Class operator license. My first amateur station and operator license was issued forty-one years ago. I have been continuously licensed, and an active practitioner, of Amateur Radio since 1954. I have held various offices in local amateur radio clubs. I am a certified VE in the ARRL VEC. I have helped countless interested individuals to obtain their own amateur radio licenses through volunteer time spent sharing my time and knowledge, in the true spirit of the Amateur Radio Service.

Flaws in the Arguments of the Petition:

- Mr. Maia would have you forbid bulletin transmissions (Mr. Maia's Petition, "The Need for a Rule Change", ¶ 1). This will not eliminate those individual operators who have found in the ARS a soapbox to climb upon to vent spleen.

- Mr. Maia contends that bulletin stations are being jammed. (Mr. Maia's Petition, "The Need for a Rule Change", ¶ 1) I have never, in 41 years of listening to W1AW code practice and cw bulletin transmissions, either heard or heard of anyone trying to "jam" W1AW transmissions. I have faithfully listened to the cw bulletins as a way to keep up my cw speed ever since I came back to civilian life from

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the Navy in 1967. I was very glad that W1AW was there, and FREE OF ANY CHARGE, when I was ready to upgrade to Extra. I have continued to copy the cw bulletins since obtaining my Extra, again to keep up my cw speed.

- Mr. Maia would have you eliminate bulletin stations to prevent intrusion into on-going conversations. (Mr. Maia's Petition, "The Need for a Rule Change", ¶ 2) It is unfortunate, but bad taste can not be regulated against. Eliminating bulletin stations will not prevent those bent on interrupting on-going conversations from doing so.

- "The many are suffering at the hands of the few." (Mr. Maia's Petition, "A Pattern of Growing Abuse", ¶ 1) This is a fallacious statement. If there is more than one transmission on a particular frequency at a time then there is already the potential for interference. It is impossible for "many" hams to be "harmed" by the appearance of one bulletin station on one frequency. "Many" hams can't be on one frequency at one time!

- Absolutely no evidence is presented to support either of Mr. Maia's claims that, the number of bulletin stations is proliferating or that chaos rains in the ARS because of this proliferation (Mr. Maia's Petition, "A Pattern of Growing Abuse", ¶ 2).

- I totally disagree with the notion that the "... time has now passed..." when bulletin stations provided a benefit to the ARS. (Mr. Maia's Petition, "Argument", ¶ 1). In fact, by some of the very same arguments made in this petition, i. e., that there are a lot more licensed hams and would-be hams today than ever before and that there is a lot more ignorance and abuse of the privilege today than in the past, it would seem that now, more than ever, educational tools are vital to the healthy survival of the hobby.

- I am absolutely horrified at the suggestion that I could be better served in my quest for information about the ARS and cw practice by going to a pay-for-use computer service or purchase some computer simulation of what Morse code might sound like. (Mr. Maia's Petition, "Argument", ¶ 2). Amateur Radio has always served it's own. Hams are there for each other. It is a fraternity. It is not a computer service!!

- "Bulletin stations...have always been the exception and not the rule and now they should be prohibited for the greater good of the Service" (Mr. Maia's Petition, "Argument", ¶ 3). This is a total *non sequitur*. In fact, the greater good has been well and truly served by cw practice and bulletin stations like W1AW. The fact that we now have a no-code entry to the Amateur ranks is even more of a reason for such educational tools to be nourished. There is an ever increasing group of newly

licensed Amateurs who are in need to upgrade. If we take away some of their most available tools to upgrade, we will have condemned them to that tasteless wasteland of discourtesy to which Mr. Maia eludes in his previous arguments.

Conclusion:

Mr. Maia has not presented a logical case. He has succeeded in arguing against his own position. There is no substance to this petition.

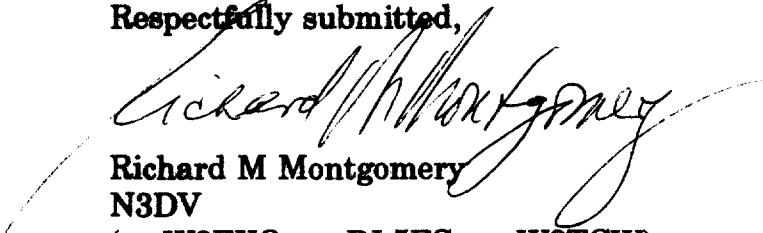
This petition should be denied.

Suggested Fix:

There is no doubt in my mind that there are issues of malicious interference caused by individuals on the ARS bands. As one suggestion to fix that issue, I would be in strong support of a voluntary assessment to provide financial support to the FCC to reinstitute the local office of Radio Inspector.

I have never been too shy to inform my fellow ham operators of issues that they may be experiencing with their transmissions, nor to help them correct the problem. Perhaps, if more hams spent their time helping their fellow hams than submitting frivolous petitions, the ARS would be much better served.

Respectfully submitted,


Richard M Montgomery
N3DV
(ex-W3EXQ, ex-DL5ES, ex-W8TCW)

cc: Raymond A Kowalski, Esq.
Keller and Heckman
1001 G Street, NW
Suite 500 West
Washington, DC 20001

Steve Mendelson
WA2DHF
Dir., Hudson Division
318 New Milford Ave
Dumont, NJ 07628

Chris Imlay, Esq.
ARRL Gen. Counsel
N3AKD
ARRL Headquarters
225 Main Street
Newington, CT 06111